

Amendments to the Specification are as follows:

Please amend the paragraph on page 14, lines 5-12 as follows:

Preferably, the ~~other~~ surface of the light guide plate is provided with a plurality of prism grooves arranged in stripes in plan view and having gently inclined faces and sharply inclined faces inclined more sharply than the gently inclined faces in order to achieve a uniform amount of emergent light in the plane of the light guide plate and to enhance the utilization efficiency of the light source and the luminance.

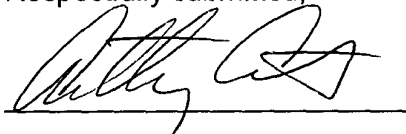
Please amend the paragraph on page 25, line 23 to page 26, line 19 as follows:

In the front light 10 of the first embodiment, as shown in FIG. 4, the intermediate light guide 13 protrudes from the light guide plate 12 toward the light emitting element 15 in the direction along the light incident face 12a, and the prism face 13a on the outer side face (reflecting face) 13j of the intermediate light guide 13 is provided distant from the end face 13g close to the light emitting element 15. Therefore, low-intensity diagonal incident light (deviating from the straight direction) E1 close to the light emitting element 15, of light E emitted from the light emitting element 15, enters the non-prism portion 13c (a portion of the reflecting face 13j between the light emitting element 15 and the prism face 13a), is directed as a delivery component E2 into the intermediate light guide 13, propagates inside the intermediate light guide 13. The delivery component E2 is reflected by the prism face 13a, is emitted from the emergent face 13k, and is introduced as straight incident light E3 into the light guide plate 12. High-intensity straight incident light (traveling in the straight direction and in the directions near the straight direction) E4, of the light E emitted from the light emitting element 15, propagates inside the intermediate light guide 13, is reflected by the prism face 13a, is emitted from the emergent face 13k, and is introduced as straight incident light E3 into the light guide plate 12.

REMARKS

Applicants have rewritten portions of the specification. The changes are shown with ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted matter and underlining for added matter. No new matter has been added as a result of this amendment. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and seek an early allowance thereof. If for any reason the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney or agent.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Anthony P. Curtis', is written over a horizontal line.

Anthony P. Curtis, Ph.D.
Registration No. 46,193
Agent for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200